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October 2013 Update

* Pathways Abilities Society Week

October 7-13 has been officially declared Pathways Abilities Week by mayor Walter Gray. Pathways is hosting a few events during the week and we are welcoming everyone to participate. Following are a list of events:

*****Inclusion chain:** Tuesday, October 8th at 10am we are meeting in front of City Hall on the East side of Water Street, in downtown Kelowna to help pave the city's first ever human 'Inclusion Pathway'. We are going to form a giant string of people of all types, from all parts of our community, lining the east side of Water Street, beginning in front of City Hall and stretching north up Water Street and around the corner onto Doyle as far as the 'pathway' can go! We'll have coffee, hot chocolate and muffins on hand and we're inviting all the media down too, to cover the event. Mayor Gray will also speak to those in attendance and will join with us, along with other dignitaries, to help form the pathway. **Please attend and invite friends and family as well.**

******Oktoberfest luncheon:** Friday, October 11:30-1:30. Bring your appetites for this themed, open-house hot lunch. Lunch will be provided free of charge. Everyone is welcome!!!

*Christmas Bake Sale and Silent Auction

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas!!! Well, not quite yet, but as winter quickly approaches, so too does Pathway's annual Bake Sale and Silent Auction (on November 16th).

We need your help!!! If you are a business owner, or you know a business owner please consider providing or soliciting donations for our silent auction. All the money raised goes directly towards the people we support at Pathways.

*Apple Crisp Sale

Along with our annual bake sale we are offering our yummy apple crisps. An 8X8 pan of delicious apple crisp is selling for \$7.00. Please pre-order by November 1, 2013. Contact Sharon to order at 250-763-4484. You don't want to miss out as we are already getting orders. We will do the work, you get to bake and enjoy.

***Sam Treschow Tree Day**

Woodhaven Tree Farms Annual Sam Treshow's Field Day Sunday, October 20 from 1:30 – 3:30 at Woodhaven Tree Farms 1705 Swainson Road, Kelowna, BC Phone 250-826-8733 To honour Sam Treshow, the Corbett Family (lead by Ted and Linnea Corbett) open up their tree farm to individuals with diversabilities and their families and friends. They pick a date early in the season to help ensure that anyone with mobility challenges will be able to access and help choose (and tag) a tree with their family (rather than waiting until the snow flies), making it truly a family event. Closer to Christmas the chosen tree can then be cut and taken home to decorate. The family also offers their trees at a discount on this special afternoon only. Be sure to plan on this fun event and create some early Christmas memories of your own!

***Cookbooks for Sale**

A commemorative Pathways cookbook is for sale. Please consider purchasing this \$10.00 keepsake. To purchase see Charisse Daley or Nikki Gaede at 555 Fuller Avenue or Rhonda Campbell at 925 Sutherland Avenue. Also look for us at the Kelowna's Farmers Market, every Wednesday.

***Prepare for weather**

Please remember that the weather will be changing over the next couple of months. Please ensure that individuals coming to Pathways are well prepared each day.

***Hot Lunch**

October 4 – Lazy Cabbage Rolls

October 11 – Pathways Abilities Society Oktober Fest Lunch – Open to the public

October 18 – Chicken Stir Fry

***Pathways closed**

Pathways will be closed on October 14 for Thanksgiving and October 25 for an in-service. Please ensure transportation arrangements are changed to accommodate this.

***Facebook**

Pathways Abilities Society has a Facebook page. Please like us and share us with your friends.

***Lunches**

Please ensure that individuals coming to activity services bring prepared lunches. Please no canned soup or boxed pasta. Lunch containers as compact as possible (we have limited fridge space). Individuals requiring their lunch be cut up or prepared a certain way, please also ensure this is done at home if possible. Support staff can and do assist individuals (including using the microwave) however we hope people can be as independent as possible!

***Check out Pathways Website**

For up to date information (including hot lunch dates) please visit our website at www.pathwayskelowna.ca.

***Pathways Needs your input!!!**

The society will be completing a strategic plan towards the end of October and would like your input and the input of families and caregivers. Please consider taking a few minutes to complete the following survey on-line <http://fluidsurveys.com/surveys/leslie-munro/strategic-plan-2013/>! Your support and feedback is VERY much appreciated. The survey will close October 7, 2013 at 9:00 am.

If you do not have access to a computer, please feel free to complete the following questions and send to the attention of Charisse. You can email at ed@pathwayskelowna.ca or drop at any of our locations.

1. What do you believe are the top 3 to 5 priorities for Pathways to achieve within 3 years? What tangible results will be indicators of success for the organization over the next 3 years?
2. In the first 12 months of this new plan, what has urgency and must be a priority to be accomplished? Offer your top three items.
3. Where do you see Pathways in 5 to 10 years?
4. Do you believe the current mission and vision statements are still "on target"? If not, what would you change?

Mission Statement

The mission of the Pathways Abilities Society is to assist people with disabilities to reach their individual goals and to participate and contribute as equal members of the community.

Vision Statement

The vision of Pathways Abilities Society is of welcome... building communities that support and value the diverse-abilities of all people".

5. What does Pathways do really well? What are our strengths?
6. What are Pathways weaknesses and prevents the organization from achieving our mission and/ or vision?
7. What challenges may impede our ability to reach our goals?
8. What opportunities should be capitalized on?
9. Should Pathways be doing something they are currently not?

***Include Me**

"Include Me" is a Community Living B.C. initiative to understand the quality of life of individuals CLBC serves. Over time, the data gathered on personal outcomes will help everyone involved in community living to develop a deeper understanding of the impact that supports and services have on peoples' quality of life. Survey data will generate evidence about program effectiveness and help guide CLBC decision making.

This project is currently in the demonstration project phase. Eventually all regions of the province will be involved, and all contracting agencies will be expected to assist. Pathways has volunteered to be involved in the demonstration project during the 2013-2014 year. If you have questions regarding Pathways involvement please contact Leslie at 250-763-4839 or at aqam@pathwayskelowna.ca.

For more information see the CLBC website:

<http://www.communitylivingbc.ca/projects/quality-of-life/>